



Blue Chevaliers International Open

7-13 September 2026

Novotel Phuket Resort, Thailand

Presented by the Blue Chevaliers in partnership with Red Knight Chess Club



Our Commitment to You

We are committed to continuously improving and developing our tournament every year. In 2026, this commitment will be met in the following ways:

- **Substantially increased prizemoney**
- **Reduced accommodation costs for our players**



Prize Fund up 25% from 330,000 to 413,000 baht

Our total prize fund now exceeds **\$13,000 USD**.

First prize for our Open Champion increases from 55,000 baht to **70,000 baht**. First prize for our Female Champion increases from 20,000 baht to **25,000 baht**.

There will now be **14 Open Championship prizes** (up from 12 in 2025) and **9 Female Championship prizes** (up from 7 in 2025).

The prize fund for **Bami's Blitz** is significantly higher this year, and now features prizemoney for the top four females and for lower rated players. Prizemoney for our **sectional groups** has also been increased.

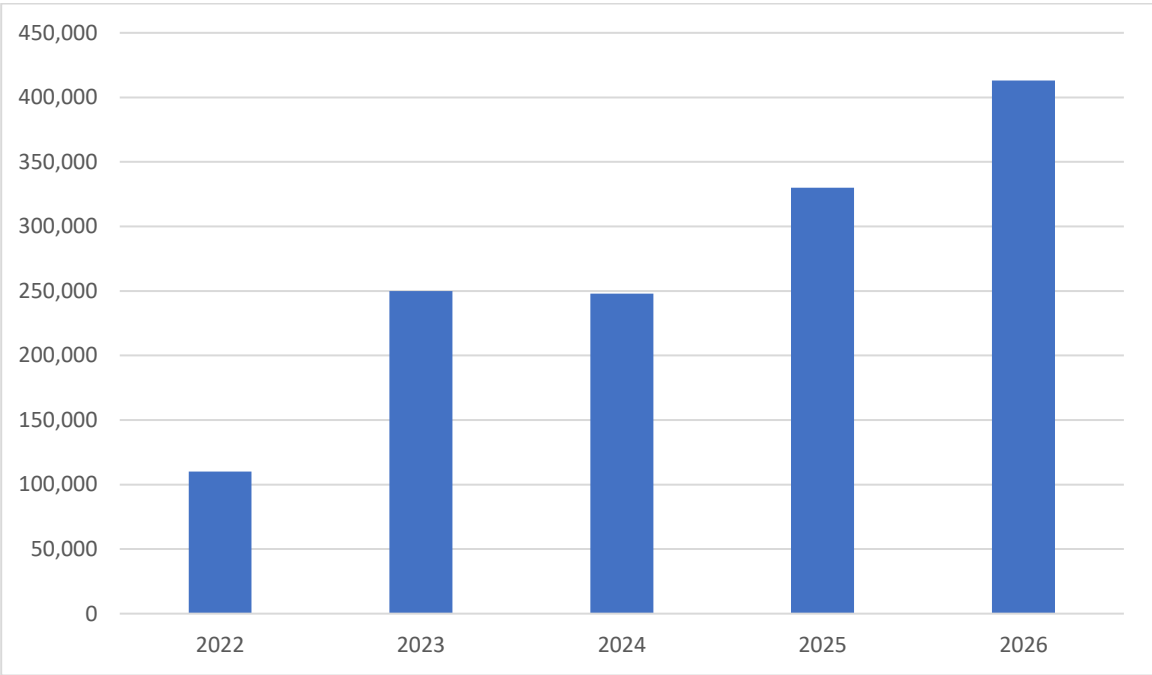
Enhanced Accommodation Offer

As a result of our move from July to low season in September, **Novotel Phuket Resort is offering room rates 25% below 2025 levels**.

Players can now stay at the venue resort for just **2,400 baht per night** (reduced from 3,200 baht in 2025). Tariffs in other accommodation are also likely to be lower than in 2025.

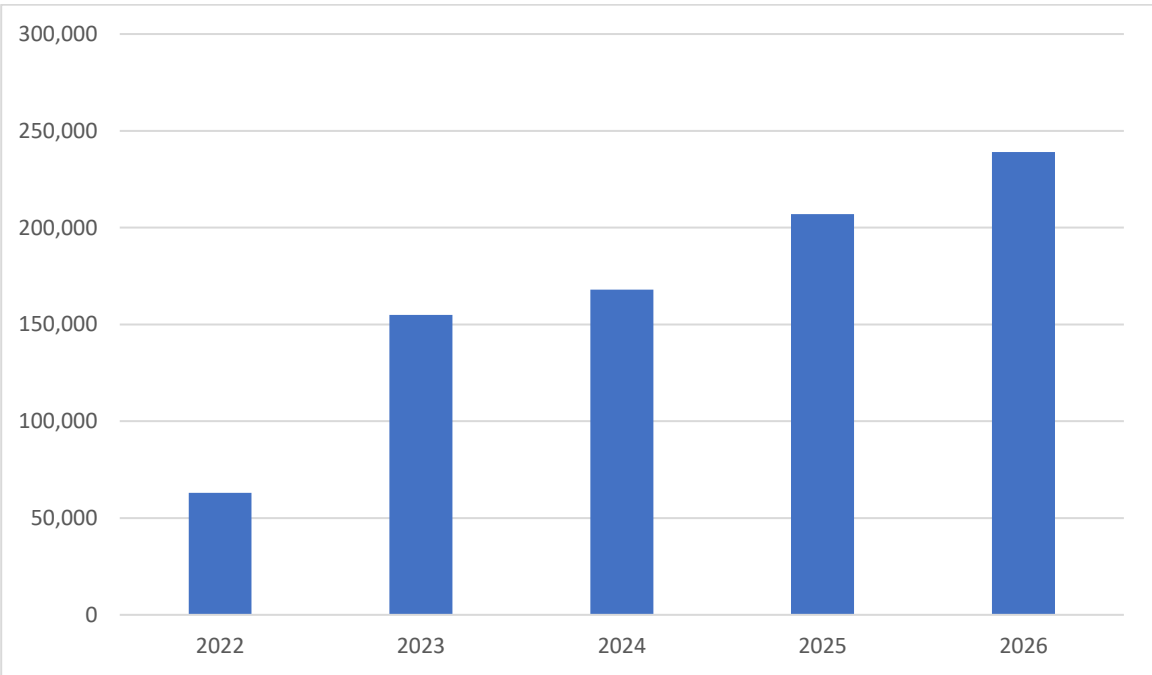
We have also increased the quantity of our **"Grandmaster Accommodation"** packages, which offer a further discount and an automatic upgrade to a sea view room, from **five** packages to **six**.

Total Prize Fund 2022-2026 (baht)



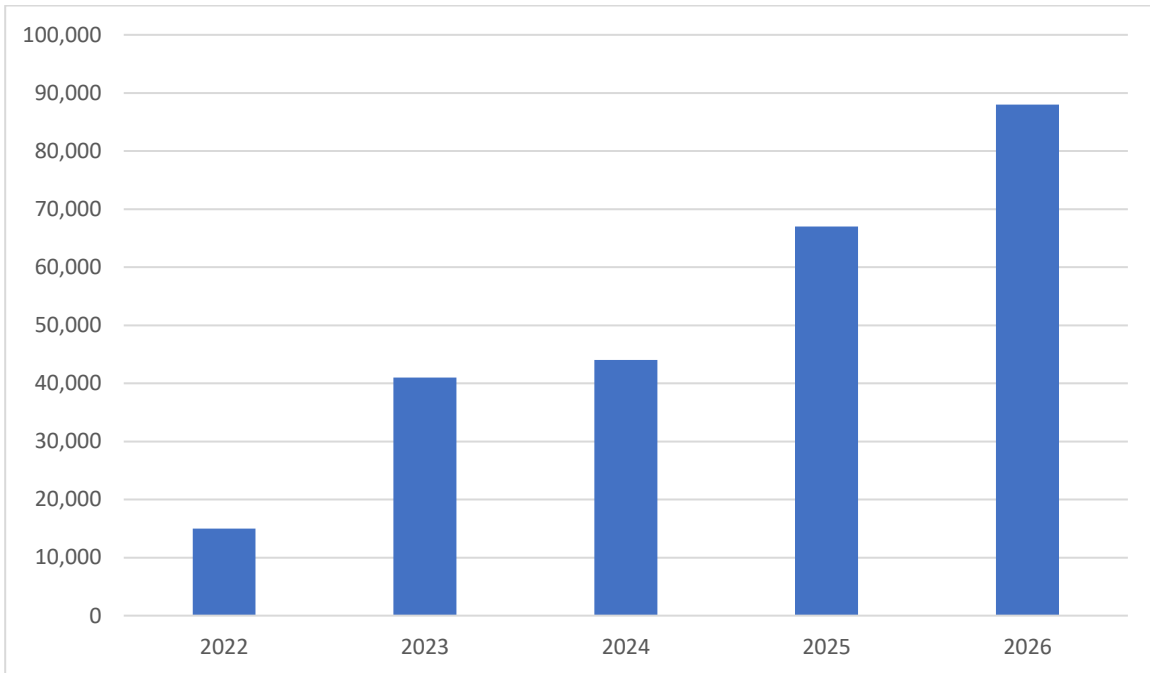
Our total prize fund has increased four-fold since our first tournament in 2022

Open Championship Prizemoney 2022-2026 (baht)



We remain committed to continually building our prize fund every year.

Female Championship Prizemoney 2022-2026 (baht)



We strive to encourage female participation in our tournament.



Our Female Champions for 2022 (WFM Sarocha Chuemsakul of Thailand) 2023 (WCM Jia-Tien Chua of Malaysia) and 2024 (WFM Bayanmunkh Amin-Erdene of Mongolia)

Invitation

The Blue Chevaliers, together with our partner Red Knight Chess Club, invite chess players to our fifth international open tournament, to be played at Novotel Phuket Resort on Patong Beach, Thailand from 7-13 September 2026.



Patong Beach

The Tournament

A nine round swiss system tournament will be played over seven days. Each player will be given 90 minutes for all moves, plus a 30 second increment that will be added after each move played. All games will be processed for rating by FIDE.

Complement With Other Events

We have selected dates to suit players planning a September “chess trip.” We anticipate that the **Dato Arthur Tan Malaysian Open** will end with a morning round on 6 September. After examining flight times, we have set our first round for 4.30pm on 7 September for the convenience of players journeying to Phuket from Kuala Lumpur.

We further anticipate that the initial playing day of the **Chess Olympiad** in Uzbekistan will be on 16 September. Direct flights from Bangkok to Uzbekistan are available on 15 September to transport players to the Olympiad. Flights with a brief single stop are available on 14 September.

Excellent Playing Conditions

We strive to provide a high level of player comfort at our tournament. Our two playing rooms are modern, carpeted and fully air-conditioned.



Capacity

To fulfil our commitment to provide first class playing conditions throughout both of our tournament rooms, **capacity will be limited to 130 entrants.**

Entries will be immediately closed should capacity be reached. **Players are therefore encouraged to enter early to secure their place in the tournament.**

Prizes

Open Championship (all players eligible)

1 st 70,000 baht	2 nd 40,000 baht	3 rd 30,000 baht	4 th 20,000 baht
5 th 15,000 baht	6 th 12,000 baht	7 th 10,000 baht	8 th 9,000 baht
9 th 8,000 baht	10 th 7,000 baht	11 th 6,000 baht	12 th 5,000 baht
13 th 4,000 baht	14 th 3,000 baht		

Female Championship

1 st 25,000 baht	2 nd 15,000 baht	3 rd 12,000 baht	4 th 10,000 baht	
5 th 8,000 baht	6 th 6,000 baht	7 th 5,000 baht	8 th 4,000 baht	9 th 3,000 baht

Sectional Groups

From the 21st seed, the field will be divided into three groups of equal numbers, in order of ELO rating. Sectional prizes will be awarded as follows:

1 st 7,000 baht	2 nd 5,000 baht	3 rd 3,000 baht
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Additional prize money for **"Bami's Blitz"** is set out on page 10.



2025 Female and Junior Champion **WFM Sneha Halder** of India

Under Thai law, a percentage of prizemoney won by foreign nationals is payable as tax to the Thailand government. However, this liability will be met separately by the organisers, and the cash prizes designated above will be paid in full at the prize-giving ceremony.

All prizes are guaranteed, regardless of the number of entries actually received.

A player may only win one cash prize. If a player qualifies for a prize in more than one category, the player will receive the highest cash prize to which they are entitled. If such prizes are equivalent, the hierarchy to determine the applicable award shall be open, female, and finally, sectional prizes.

Prizes will not be shared. Ties will be broken by applying the tie breaking procedures indicated on the tournament's page at chess-results.com.



Trophies and Medals

Silver cups will be presented to the winners of the open, female, senior (over 50 on 7 September 2026) and junior (under 18 years of age on 7 September 2026) championships. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to the first three placegetters in each of these championships, as well as the sectional categories.

Eligibility

Players of any nationality, Thai or foreigner, may enter this “open” tournament.

Entrants must have a FIDE ID number and a minimum standard ELO of 1400. Only rated players will be admitted.

A player with a rating only slightly above 1400 may enter the tournament, **but must retain their rating in the FIDE ratings list to be published on 1 September 2026 to maintain eligibility.**

Entrants under the age of 18 on 7 September 2026 will be subject to assessment pursuant to our “competitive fairness” policy, which aims to encourage fair ratings, and junior participation in open tournaments where they encounter adult players.

Organisers reserve the right to decline the entry of any player at their own discretion, without necessarily providing a reason.



2025 Open Champion IM Quoc Hy Nguyen of Vietnam

Bami's Blitz

"Bami's Blitz" will be played over 10 rounds at 3/2. It will be FIDE rated. Entries to "Bami's Blitz" will open at 11am on 7 September. Players may enter the blitz tournament by choosing from the following two alternatives:

a) Entry by envelope at any time

An entry box will be permanently stationed next to the Arbiter Table in the playing room. Players may enter Bami's Blitz by writing their name and FIDE ID number on an envelope (provided), placing their entry fee (if applicable) of **500 baht** inside the envelope, and depositing the envelope into the box. This means of entry will lapse at 9.30am on the day of Bami's Blitz.

b) Entry during final call

A player can also enter Bami's Blitz by presenting themselves in the playing room between 3.30pm and 4.30pm on the day of the tournament, and paying an entry fee of **600 baht** during "final call". Such players should have their name and FIDE ID number clearly printed on a piece of paper, for handing to the Final Call Administrator, together with their entry fee.

Entry into Bami's Blitz is free for any player qualified for free entry into the Blue Chevaliers International Open tournament.

Open Blitz Prizes

1 st	8,000 baht	2 nd	6,000 baht	3 rd	4,000 baht
4 th	3,000 baht	5 th	2,000 baht	6 th	1,000 baht

Female Blitz Prizes

1 st	5,000 baht	2 nd	3,000 baht	3 rd	2,000 baht	4 th	1,000 baht
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Under 1800 Blitz Prizes

1 st	3,000 baht	2 nd	2,000 baht	3 rd	1,000 baht
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A player can win only one prize. Unrated players with a FIDE ID number are welcome to enter Bami's Blitz, and are eligible for the prizes.

Bami's Blitz will conclude with a presentation ceremony shortly after 8.00pm.

The Venue

Novotel Phuket Resort is nestled in a quiet corner of Patong Beach. The tournament will be played at the “Siam Conference Centre” within the resort.



Resort guests enjoy a multitude of bars, swimming pools and recreational facilities

Secure the following discounted room rates (which include all taxes and charges, and a full breakfast) by booking directly with the resort via email to H1965-RE1@accor.com AND H1965-RE@accor.com and quoting “Blue Chevaliers International Open Participant.”

These rates are available to our players within the period 6-14 September.

Superior Room (double or twin) **2,400** baht per night

Deluxe Seaview Room (double or twin) **3,700** baht per night

These discounted room rates are only valid until 15 August 2026. A limited number of each room type have been reserved for the tournament. Players keen to stay at the venue resort should book early to secure their accommodation.

Tournament Room Shuttle Service

The playing area is accessed by a short walk up a steep hill. Although players are welcome to undertake this climb by foot if they so prefer, a continuous tuk-tuk service will operate from the base of the hill from 30 minutes before each round.



Guest rooms at Novotel Phuket Resort are quiet and well appointed.

All players, whether staying at Novotel Phuket Resort or elsewhere, will receive a 15% discount on resort spa, food and non-alcoholic beverages during the tournament.

If asked to do so, players should identify themselves to resort staff as a player by displaying our “blue knight” logo using their mobile phones.

A range of alternative accommodation is also available in the vicinity of the resort to cater for all budgets. However, we suggest that players consider supporting our partner resort, knowing that a stay at Novotel Phuket Resort will be a memorable experience for them.

Schedule

Round 1	4.30pm Monday 7 September
Round 2	2.00pm Tuesday, 8 September
Round 3	9.30am Wednesday, 9 September
Round 4	3.00pm Wednesday, 9 September
Round 5	9.30am Thursday, 10 September
Bami's Blitz	5.00pm Thursday, 10 September
Round 6	9.30am Friday, 11 September
Round 7	3.00pm Friday, 11 September
Round 8	2.00pm Saturday, 12 September
Round 9	9.30am Sunday, 13 September

Presentation of Prizes

Presentation of prizes is scheduled for 3.00pm on 13 September. Any person is welcome to attend the presentation. **The winner of a prize must be present to collect it at the presentation ceremony, or it will be forfeited.**

Draw Offers

An offer of a draw may be ventured at any time, without requirement for a specific number of moves to have been made.



No need to fight if you don't want to.

Half Point Byes

A player may request a half-point bye for any of rounds 2-7.

A request must be advised to an official Arbiter, at the Arbiter Table, before the draw for the applicable round is published.

A player who is not present for round one but who subsequently enters the tournament will be accorded a half point bye for round 1.

A player is limited to two half point byes.

Entry Fees

Entries are now open. Entry fees are unchanged from 2025, as follows:

- a) **3,500 baht** for players rated 2000 or higher
- b) **4,500 baht** for players rated below 2000.

Entry is **free** for all of the following:

- a) any player with a standard ELO rating of 2400 or higher
- b) any player holding the “GM” or “WGM” Grandmaster title
- c) the 2025 Open Champion (**IM Quoc Hy Nguyen**)
- d) the 2025 Female Champion (**WFM Sneha Halder**)
- e) all members of Thailand’s 2026 Olympiad Teams (open and female)

A 500 baht surcharge will be applicable to entries received after **15 August 2026**.

In the event of cancellation by an entered player, their entry fee will be refunded in full if cancellation is advised by **15 August 2026**.

The absolute closing time for entries is 3.30pm on 7 September, **or as soon as the capacity of 130 players is reached.**

Grandmaster Accommodation Packages



The offer detailed below is conditional on the following:

- a) a minimum standard ELO of 2450
- b) a limit of 6 rooms being allocated at the tariff rates set out in the offer. These will be allocated on a "first come first served" basis to GM titleholders.

The Offer

- a) The GM will be accommodated at Novotel Phuket Resort (the venue for the tournament);
- b) The room must be occupied for at least 6 nights within the period 6-14 September.
- c) The discounted tariff for the room will be **2,000 baht per night**. This includes a full buffet breakfast, and all taxes and charges;
- d) The GM will be automatically upgraded upon arrival from a "Superior" room to a "Deluxe Seaview" room.**
- e) The GM may elect to choose a Deluxe Seaview twin room (subject to availability) and share it with any other person (titleholder or non-titleholder). This option would result in each guest paying just 1,000 baht per night (including full breakfasts and all taxes and charges).

On expressing interest in being allocated a room, a room (if still available) will be allocated to the GM on a provisional basis for up to 14 days. The allocation will be confirmed upon payment of the applicable invoice by the GM concerned within the 14 days period. In the event of non-payment, the room will be returned to the pool of available rooms

Any interested Grandmaster is invited to make direct contact with Peter Frost at peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au. All room allocations pursuant to this offer will be handled in the first instance by Peter. Therefore, Grandmasters should proceed directly through Peter, and not initially through Novotel Phuket Resort.

The number of rooms available to Grandmasters pursuant to this offer is limited to 6. Interested Grandmasters are encouraged to move early should they wish to secure a room on the terms available in this offer.

The offer will expire on 15 August 2026.

Any player holding a GM title who is not eligible to participate in the accommodation offer will be granted free entry into the tournament.



How to Enter

Players can enter the tournament via the following two step procedure:

- a) email peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au to advise of intent to enter. This email must include the player's name, FIDE ID number and date of birth. We will reply within 48 hours to advise whether the entry is able to be accepted.
- b) after receiving our reply, entrants based in Thailand must, within 5 business days, transfer their entry fee into the following Kasikorn Bank account:

Account Number	Name of Account Holder
062-1-75111-5	Red Knight Chess Co. Ltd

The entrant must simultaneously send an email to peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au with an image of their transfer deposit receipt. We will then confirm by reply email that the entry has been finalized.

Entrants NOT based in Thailand can confirm their entry simply by emailing an image of their flight booking by **7 July 2026**. Such entrants will pay their entry fee in cash when registering on 7 September.

Only players who have fully complied with all these entry requirements, including making their payment, will be paired for round 1.

Fair Play

A player in possession at the board of a mobile phone or other electronic device, or who is judged to have viewed a mobile phone in a bathroom or elsewhere outside the playing room, will forfeit the game. **Players judged to have deliberately cheated will be immediately removed from the tournament and banned from all future Blue Chevaliers events.**

Digital watches will be confiscated and returned to the offending player after play.

Rest rooms will be periodically examined by the arbiters.

All players who enter the tournament accept that they may be subjected to random scanning for electronic devices at any time, and that their image may be used in tournament reporting.

Our Champions

Year	Open Champion	Female Champion	Junior Champion	Senior Champion
2022	FM Jony Habla	WFM Sarocha Chuemsakul	Shin Jingjang	Ric Portugalera
2023	IM Konstantin Sek	WCM Jia-Tien Chua	Rishi Vijayakumar	IM Torben Sorensen
2024	IM Oleg Badmatsyrenov	WFM Bayanmunkh Amin-Erdene	Yu Shi	FM Ko Ko Ohn
2025	IM Quoc Hy Nguyen	WFM Sneha Halder	WFM Sneha Halder	Igor Khokhlov

Tournament Information

The primary source for information in advance of the tournament, and for reports, photos and videos during the tournament, will be our **new tournament facebook page “Blue Chevaliers International Open,”** which is now operative.

All players and other interested persons should “follow” this page to keep abreast of the latest tournament information. However, any key “need to know” information will also be announced in person to players prior to the commencement of each round.

The tournament will also feature a portal at “chess-results.com” which will update entries received, and provide full details of the tournament. **The games of the top ten boards will be viewable there within 24 hours of the conclusion of the applicable round.**

Forfeits

We take very seriously the issue of players not appearing for a game after being paired for the applicable round.

If a player does not appear for a game after being paired, the player will not be paired for the following round unless a timely and satisfactory explanation is provided to the Chief Arbiter or peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au.

An unapproved forfeit will jeopardise a player’s entry into future Blue Chevaliers events.

Registration

Every entrant must register their arrival in person in the playing room between **11am and 3.30pm** on the day of the first round.

Foreign based players who have not yet paid their entry fee must do so when registering. **Only entrants who have presented themselves for registration will be paired for the first round.**

Disputes

In the event of a dispute or disputed result, a player may appeal to the **Chief Arbiter, IA Ellie Emira**. The Chief Arbiter's decision shall be final. No Appeals Committee is operational at this tournament.

Dress Code

Intending entrants are advised that Thailand is a conservative society regarding dress, particularly for organized events.

Players should dress appropriately (with sleeved shirts) in all public areas of the resort, including the playing rooms.

Players not adhering to the dress code will jeopardize their continued participation and their entry into our future tournaments.

Spectators

Spectators are welcome to view play subject to the following conditions:

- a) spectators should avoid frequently entering and exiting a playing room;
- b) spectators should circulate and not be fixated on any one board;
- c) the Chief Arbiter has full discretion to clear any or all spectators from a playing room at any time if she judges that their presence is causing distraction to players, or a hindrance to Arbiters.

Photography

Photography is not permitted once play is in progress. However, our official Photographer/Arbiter will be taking photos of all players during rounds 2 and 5 for our own media.

Enquiries

Should any prospective player wish to ask any questions regarding the tournament, do not hesitate to do so via peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au

Appreciations



The Blue Chevaliers and Red Knight Chess Club wish to acknowledge **Bangkok Chess Club, Southside Knights Chess Club, Big Rook Chess Academy, Double Bishop Chess Academy and Hua Hin Chess Club** for their support in providing chess equipment.

We also thank **Mr Jeroen Wismeijer** of Phuket for undertaking a variety of local tasks associated with the tournament.



The Blue Chevaliers

The Blue Chevaliers (Bami, David, Jeremi, Matthieu, Nicolas and Peter) are foreign chess players active in South-East Asia.

We are strictly non-profit. We simply aim to be of service to chess players in Thailand and South-East Asia.

We particularly value and are keen to encourage the 90/30 standard time control, and the participation of female players in chess tournaments.

In addition to presenting our annual tournament in Phuket, we also publish a regular online newsletter, **“Tiger Chess!”** which promotes and reports on 90/30 standard tournaments in Thailand and South-East Asia. Subscription is free, and can be arranged by emailing peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au



Red Knight Chess Club

The Blue Chevaliers International Open is presented by the Blue Chevaliers in partnership with Red Knight Chess Club, whose support we gratefully acknowledge.

Founded by **Riste Menkinoski** and **Loreshyl Cuizon**, Red Knight Chess Club has produced many Thailand youth champions and helped many young players in Bangkok to become strong competitive chess players.

In addition to coaching, the club regularly organizes large international school competitions, as well as FIDE rated tournaments for players of all ages and levels.

You can learn more about Red Knight Chess Club at redknightchess.com



Red Knight Chess Café. With a new, modern design, this chess themed coffee shop is a must-stop venue for chess players from all around the world, when visiting or passing through Bangkok.

We are excited at the prospect of once again welcoming our chess friends for a great week of chess on the glorious blue Andaman Sea.

See you in Phuket!



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